

REMARKS

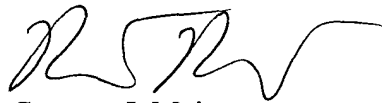
Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 8-14 are pending. The present preliminary amendment cancels claims 1-7.

It is believed that the present application is in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599
Robert C. Mattson
Registration No. 42,850



22850

(703) 413-3000
Facsimile (703) 413-2220
GJM:RCM:djn
I:\atty\RCM\Prosecution\0057\198778.preamd.wpd